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C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 000112

SIPDIS

STATE FOR SA/INS, SA/RA, AND DRL  
NSC FOR MILLARD

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/14/2014

TAGS: [PHUM](#) [MOPS](#) [MASS](#) [NP](#)

SUBJECT: NEPAL: SPOKESMAN SAYS ARMY WILL INITIATE  
COURT-MARTIAL PROCEEDINGS IN HUMAN RIGHTS CASE

REF: KATHMANDU 0063

Classified By: CDA ROBERT K. BOGGS. REASON: 1.5 (B,D).

1. (C) On January 15 Royal Nepal Army (RNA) Spokesman Col. Deepak Gurung informed poloff that the RNA had completed its inquiry into allegations that RNA soldiers had summarily executed three civilians in Khotang District on December 6 (Reftel). According to Gurung, the RNA, based on its findings, has initiated court-martial proceedings against a warrant officer who was in charge of the detachment of the platoon implicated in the incident. He added that the RNA has also recommended that compensation be paid to family members of the three victims. Gurung undertook to provide further details, including the warrant officer's name and any further identifying information about his unit, as soon as possible. (Note: The platoon is part of the 18th Brigade, which is scheduled to train with U.S. forces in Balance 04-3. End note.)

2. (C) Comment: The Khotang case is one in which the Embassy had expressed particular concern. This is only the second case, to our knowledge, in which the RNA has initiated court-martial proceedings against soldiers accused of extra-judicial killings. While we view the RNA's responsiveness in this matter as a positive sign, we will continue to monitor developments closely. Embassy will relay further information about the case to the Department as soon as it becomes available.  
BOGGS